

and were drowned. No. 1 is the roof of the dancing deck, now a slide wall. No. 2 is the benches where those not dancing sat. No. 3 is the dancing floor. No. 4 is the well of water in which 200 drowned. Now turn the picture sideways and you see the dancing deck as it was before the ship tipped over, except—you see only half of it, the other half being covered with water.

EVIDENCE GROWS THAT WESTERN ELECTRIC FOREMEN FORCED EMPLOYEES ON EXCURSION

A short while ago the following notice appeared on a Western Electric Co. bulletin board: "Ninety-seven per cent were on the picnic last year; make it 100 per cent this year."

The day before the picnic tickets could be bought from Western Electric employes for as low as 25 cents. "We don't want to go, but we had to buy them," was the explanation.

The Hawthorne club is supposed to be an organization of employees of the Western Electric. The employees pay their dues. The superintendents are elected to important offices. Many say the principal object of the Hawthorne club is to crush unionism. A union man must lay low at the W. E. Now State's Atty Hoyne has discovered that the Hawthorne club was to have been given a rebate by the boat company, which in the case of the Eastland alone would have amounted to \$625 if 3,500 tickets were collected at the gangway. The Hawthorne club seems to be principally a foremen's organization.

Hoyne has in his possession a rebate contract sent to Chas. J. Mahmos, chairman of the Western Electric's picnic organization, and signed by W. K. Greenbaum, general manager, Indiana Transportation Co., which chartered the Eastland for the excursion.

In substance it says: "In consideration of your paying \$1 per adult ticket we will allow commission of 42½ cents on each ticket if 2,500 or more are sold. If 3,500 are sold we will allow 45 cents per ticket. If 4,100 50 cents commission."

It is estimated that 10,000 tickets

were sold for different boats of the excursion.

Miss Agnes Bates, 2318 S. Turner av., would not talk to a reporter of her experiences at the Western Electric for fear she would lose her job. Here is her story as told by a friend:

"Miss Bates did not want to go to the picnic. There were lots of girls who did not want to go because they were afraid of the water. They were also afraid they would lose their jobs if they did not go. Talk was common in the shop that all who did not go would be fired."

In the catastrophe Miss Bates proved herself a heroine. When the old tub toppled she and her companion, Miss Pine Keeran, 2253 S. Albany av., fell between the decks. Miss Bates grabbed the slide rail as she fell. Miss Keeran clutched Miss Bates' skirt. When Miss Bates thought she could hang on no longer her skirt pulled off and Miss Keeran plunged to death. A moment later the railing broke and Miss Bates went into the water.

Miss Bates went down twice, then grabbed a rod sticking out of the deck. Two men tried to take the rod from her. She fought them off. Then she held two women up until rescue came, and tied ropes around them before she accepted a rope herself.

"I wouldn't have a job when the plant starts up next Thursday," was the remark of two score of workers who said they knew of foremen intimidating the men under them into buying tickets.

"Don't make the Hawthorne club or the foremen the goats for everything," said one man. "They were